



**UNIVERSITY
OF TURKU**

Turku School of
Economics

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DOCTORAL RESEARCHER POSITIONS AND RIGHT TO PURSUE A DOCTORAL DEGREE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TURKU GRADUATE SCHOOL, DOCTORAL PROGRAMME OF TURKU SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

In this call for applications, you may apply for the right to pursue a doctoral degree within the University of Turku, the Doctoral Programme of Turku School of Economics (DPTSE) and/or for a fixed-term doctoral researcher position funded by the University of Turku Graduate School (UTUGS) starting from 1 January 2027.

1. The Doctoral Programme of Turku School of Economics

The Doctoral Programme of Turku School of Economics (DPTSE) is a part of the University of Turku Graduate School (UTUGS). The programme aims at training experts for the needs of business, society, and the academic community. It offers scientific researcher training to solve relevant, current and anticipated problems related to business, economy, and society. The programme is responsible for doctoral training in the fields of Business Administration, Economics, and Futures Studies at the University of Turku. Turku School of Economics operates on two campuses, Turku (main campus) and Pori.

In its research and teaching portfolio, the programme covers a multitude of disciplines related to business and economy. Applicants can select the major subject they are interested in from the list below. Note that in our Pori campus, possible major subjects are Accounting & Finance, Entrepreneurship, Marketing, and Management & Organisation.

- Accounting and Finance with two specialisation areas:
 - i. Financial Accounting and Management Accounting or
 - ii. Finance
- Accounting and Finance, Pori
- Management and Organisation
- Management and Organisation, Pori
- Marketing
- Marketing, Pori
- Entrepreneurship
- Entrepreneurship, Pori
- International Business
- Operations & Supply Chain Management
- Economic Geography
- Economics
- Business Law
- Quantitative Methods in Management
- Information Systems Science
- Futures Studies
- Health Economics (apply through [the Doctoral Programme in Clinical Research](#))

Doctoral studies in the DPTSE are built as a four-year doctoral programme, where doctoral researchers conduct research in an international, multidisciplinary, and widely networked environment. The degree of Doctor of Science in Economics and Business Administration or Doctor of Philosophy degrees can be completed in all majors. In addition, the degree of Doctor of Social Sciences can be taken in the major of Economics and Health Economics (all students majoring in Health Economics belong to [the Doctoral Programme in Clinical Research](#), please apply through that programme if interested in majoring in Health Economics).

Applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully review the web pages of the major subject and department they are applying to. The proposed research must align with the major's research profile, strengths, and ongoing projects. A well-matched research topic not only strengthens the application but also supports successful doctoral studies and integration into the research community. Information about the major subjects,

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their research areas, and faculty expertise is available on the Turku School of Economics website. Please take the time to familiarise yourself with this material before preparing your research plan and application.

For additional information on the profile areas in research at Turku School of Economics, please visit [TSE's research web pages](#).

2. Application period and what you may apply for

During the application period 25 August 2026 – 8 September 2026 at 23:59 (local time in Finland) you may apply for:

- a) a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position with an employment contract (starting 1 January 2027),
- b) the right to pursue a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics (starting 1 January 2027), or
- c) both of the above (a and b)

a) A fixed-term Doctoral Researcher positions with an employment contract

A doctoral researcher position begins on 1 January 2027 or by agreement during the year 2027. These fully-funded positions are intended for the best-of-the-class doctoral researchers to focus full-time on doctoral studies and research toward their doctoral dissertation. When determining the length of the employment, previously awarded funding for doctoral studies as well as the planned schedule and stage of the doctoral degree will be taken into account. The duration of a UTUGS-funded fixed-term doctoral researcher position is at most four years, but not beyond 31 December 2030. Basis for the fixed-term employment is doctoral researcher's work related to their studies. The right to pursue a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics is a precondition for receiving a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position. A person who already holds a doctoral degree cannot be selected to a doctoral researcher position. Participation in teaching and other duties should be arranged so that the dissertation can be completed within the planned timetable. The employment contract is based on a total annual working time of 1,612 hours, which gives the doctoral researcher flexibility to arrange working hours. As a rule, teaching and other duties may account for up to 5% of the annual working time (approximately up to 80 hours per academic year). Additionally, at TSE another 5 % of the annual working time (maximum) can be used for administrative duties (committee memberships, organizing research seminars/department meetings etc.). A doctoral researcher position requires living in Finland for the duration of the employment contract.

Salary is based on the salary system of the University's teaching and research staff. Salary will consist of a task-specific salary component and a personal performance salary component. The task-specific salary component of a doctoral researcher varies between levels 2 to 4, depending on the stage of the doctoral degree. In addition, a personal performance salary component is paid. The salary of a doctoral researcher ranges roughly from € 2,400 to € 3,300 depending on progress of the doctoral research and the experience and skills of the person concerned. The level of task-specific salary component of a new doctoral researcher is generally assessed as level 2. The probationary period is six months, however not more than half of the employment period. The Doctoral Researchers work at the departments and other units at TSE.

b) the right to study for a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics

Turku School of Economics offers the degrees of Doctor of Science in Economics and Business Administration, Doctor of Social Sciences, and Doctor of Philosophy. Eligibility for the different degrees is determined by the applicant's educational background. The applicants are required to have at least 60 ECTS of previous studies *in the major of the doctoral degree*, of which 18 ECTS must be advanced studies, a minimum grade of "very good" for the Master's thesis, and at least a grade of "very good" for the major subject (the equivalent of 4/5, five being the best).

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For those who apply for the right to study for a doctoral degree, TSE will evaluate 1) the quality of the research plan, 2) the suitability of the research topic in relation to the research profile and expertise of the major subject and its faculty, and 3) the applicant's prior academic performance and possible scientific merits. [The selection criteria for postgraduate studies at Turku School of Economics](#) are presented in detail on the website of Doctoral Training at Turku School of Economics.

To receive the right to study, the applicant needs to have a higher university degree and an approved research plan. The right to study granted in this application round will begin on 1 January 2027. Please note that there are no tuition fees for admitted doctoral researchers. However, admission does not automatically include funding or a salary from the University of Turku.

c) both of the above (a and b)

Please note that if you do not yet have the study right and you wish to apply for the fixed term Doctoral Researcher position, you need to apply separately for both the study right and the funded position. See more details below in section 5.

3. Who may apply

4.1 Doctoral Researcher positions can be applied for by...

- a) Persons who have an active right to study for a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics.
- b) Persons who have not yet been granted the right to study for a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics, but who are at the same time applying for the right to study for a doctoral degree (Finnish Universities Act 558/2009, Section 37). As the right to study for a doctoral degree is a precondition for receiving a Doctoral Researcher position funded by the university, the applicant must apply for both the right to study for a doctoral degree as well as a Doctoral Researcher position in this application round. The degree that gives eligibility for applying for the right to study for a doctoral degree must be granted by the end of the application period, 8 September 2026.

Persons who already have a doctoral degree or who have used funding for completing a doctoral degree equivalent to the amount of four years of full-time research cannot be selected for a Doctoral Researcher position.

According to Section 39 of the University of Turku Rules of Procedure, a person selected for the position of a Doctoral Researcher is required to have a higher university degree and must have an accepted research plan. In addition, when acquiring his or her degree or otherwise, he or she is required to have demonstrated the ability and motivation to undertake postgraduate studies and the capacity to complete a doctoral degree in accordance with the research plan.

4.2 The right to study for a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics can be applied for by...

Persons who meet the eligibility criteria for the right to study for a doctoral degree, as stipulated in the Universities Act (558/2009, Section 37), as well as [the selection criteria for postgraduate studies at Turku School of Economics](#). The degree that gives eligibility for applying for the right to study for a doctoral degree must be granted by the end of the application period, 8 September 2026.

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4. Applying

Applications for the right to pursue a doctoral degree are submitted via the Studyinfo (Opintopolku) service and applications for fixed-term doctoral researcher position with an employment contract are submitted via the University of Turku recruitment system (Talentti) by completing an electronic application form and submitting the required attachments. There are **three possible cases** for applying. Please identify your situation carefully and follow the correct instructions for each:

a) You are applying only for a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position (under an employment contract)

- Apply using the University of Turku recruitment system (Talentti) using the electronic form. [A link to the Graduate School web pages where the links to the application form will be published.](#)
- Application period: 25 August 2026 – 8 September 2026 at 23:59 (11:59 pm) local time in Finland
- Language: All documents are asked to be delivered in English, as international experts may assess your application.
- Note: To apply, you must already have the right to study for a doctoral degree at the Doctoral Programme of TSE. If you don't, apply for it simultaneously (see case c).

b) You are applying only for the right to pursue a doctoral degree without an employment contract

- Apply in the Studyinfo service using the electronic form. [A link to the Graduate School web pages where the links to the application form will be published.](#)
- Application period: 25 August 2026 – 8 September 2026 at 23:59 (11:59 pm) local time in Finland
- The language of the application and attachments can be either Finnish or English.
- Note: You cannot apply for a Doctoral Researcher employment position in this system.

c) You are applying for both a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position and the right to study

- You must submit **two separate applications**:
 - o One in Talentti for the fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position under an employment contract.
 - o One in the Studyinfo for the right to pursue a doctoral degree.
 - o [Links to the application forms will be published on the University of Turku Graduate School web pages.](#)
- Both applications must be completed by 8 September 2026 at 23:59 (11:59 pm) local time in Finland
- Language: All documents are asked to be delivered in English, as international experts may assess your application.

For both applications, you will need to attach the required additional documents (in pdf form). Application documents are specified at the end of this call for applications (Appendices 1 and 2). During the selection process, applicants may be asked to provide additional information. Applicants will be notified separately if they are invited to an additional interview. The application documents will not be returned to the applicant.

During one application round the applicant may apply to a maximum of two doctoral programmes at the University of Turku. Within that doctoral programme the applicant can only apply once. You can only have one valid study right at a time for a doctoral degree at the University of Turku.

Applications must be submitted online no later than Tuesday, 8 September 2026. The application forms in the application systems will close **at 23:59 (11:59 pm) local time in Finland**. Submitting the application after that is not possible.

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5. Assessment of the applications

6.1 Fixed-term Doctoral Researcher Positions under an employment contract

After a screening based on the eligibility and selection criteria related to the right to study for a doctoral degree, the major subjects assess the applications. They may also interview the applicants. Based on the assessment, the best applications are evaluated by a board consisting of national and international experts from TSE and other universities. Before this, the research plans will be checked with the *Turnitin OriginalityCheck* plagiarism detection software in accordance with the University of Turku quality assurance system.

The evaluation and selection criteria are as follows:

1. The right to study for a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics, or meeting the eligibility and selection criteria at issue
2. The quality of the research plan
3. Academic performance and scientific merits
4. The progress of studies and research to this date as other complementary criteria

The final selection will be based on a comprehensive evaluation of applications (not on a single criterion) since the applicants can be at very different stages of their doctoral dissertation process. Any other funding used by the applicant for doctoral studies is taken into consideration when determining the duration of the Doctoral Researcher position. Previously received UTUGS position may be considered as a positive factor in the overall evaluation.

The Head of each Department at the Turku School of Economics will decide on the recruitment of the applicants for the position of Doctoral Researcher based on the proposal of the Steering Committee of the Doctoral Programme of TSE by the end of November 2026. All applicants will be personally informed about the decisions. The names of the applicants who have been selected for the position of Doctoral Researcher will be announced on the website of the doctoral programme by the end of November 2026.

6.2 The right to study for a doctoral degree

Applications are assessed based on [the eligibility and selection criteria for postgraduate studies at TSE](#). After a screening based on eligibility, the applications are assessed by the major subjects and the Steering Committee of the Doctoral Programme of TSE. The admission decisions for postgraduate studies are made by the end of November 2026. The right to study for a doctoral degree is granted by the Dean of Turku School of Economics based on the proposal of the Steering Committee of the Doctoral Programme of TSE. All applicants will be personally informed about the decisions.

6. Accepting the study place

An admitted applicant has to notify the University of Turku of their acceptance of the study place by 23:59 (local time in Finland) on 15 December 2026 according to the instructions given in the admission notification. If the admitted applicant does not give the notification by the end of the allotted time period mentioned above, they forfeit the study place. A person admitted to more than one university or polytechnic degree programme only notifies the one educational institution at which they accept the study place. Notification, i.e., accepting a study place, is binding and may not be cancelled or changed later.

According to Finnish university legislation, a student may accept only one study place leading to a higher education degree in Finland during one academic term (autumn term 1 Aug–31 Dec or spring term 1 Jan–31

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Jul). This rule applies to all higher education, i.e. Bachelor and Master level degrees awarded by Finnish universities of applied sciences, Bachelor and Master degrees awarded by Finnish universities, and Licentiate and Doctoral degrees awarded by Finnish universities. This regulation is not applied to study rights received in transfer student selections, from the Åland University of Applied Sciences, from the Police University College, and from institutions of higher education outside Finland.

The applicants who have completed their prior degree in a country other than Finland and who are granted a study right in this call need to deliver either the original degree certificates or certified copies of the original degree certificates and their translations to the University of Turku as instructed in the admission notification by 8 March 2027 at the latest. If the admitted applicant does not deliver the required certificates by the deadline, they forfeit the study right. [A link to the the instructions on delivering certificates and country-specific requirements.](#)

7. Additional information

Doctoral programme of Turku School of Economics (www.utu.fi/tseddoctoralprogramme),
Doctoral Programme Coordinator, tel. +358 29 450 3890, [tseddoctoralprogramme \(at\) utu.fi](mailto:tseddoctoralprogramme@utu.fi)

Appendix 1. Attachments to the application when applying for doctoral researcher position with employment contract

Fill in the electronic application form in Talenti. The attachments listed below must be submitted as part of the Talenti system's electronic application form unless otherwise instructed. Ensure that all attachments are high-quality, easy-to-read, full-colour scans or photographs of the entire required document. Attachments should be submitted in PDF format. Attachments that do not meet these requirements may be rejected. Name each file so that the filename clearly shows both your name and the document type (for example: surname-firstname-CV). All application documents shall be prepared in English.

The applicant must deliver all required documents by the end of the application period. Any late submissions will not be processed.

- 1. Research plan**, including a realistic funding plan and schedule for the research and studies (max 10 pages (excl. cover and list of references), Times New Roman 12 pt, line spacing 1.5) in PDF format

By attaching the research plan to the application form, the applicant gives permission to check the research plan with *Turnitin OriginalityCheck* software (a system for electronic plagiarism detection). Useful information on preparing your research plan is available on the Doctoral training website of TSE: <https://www.utu.fi/en/university/turku-school-of-economics/research/doctoral-training/applying>.

Please note that AI generated texts do not reach the academic and analytical depth we cherish at TSE. Producing the main body of text with AI reproduces only a superficial account of your topic, and would highly unlikely result in a positive decision.

The use of AI tools is permitted only as a support instrument (e.g., for language editing or idea exploration). The core intellectual content of the re-search plan, including research questions, design, and argumentation, must be the applicant's own work. AI tools must not be used to generate the re-search plan as a whole.

All applicants must include a separate appendix to their research plan titled "Use of Artificial Intelligence in the Research Plan" (max. 1 page). If no AI tools have been used, the appendix must

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include a brief statement confirming this. If AI tools have been used, the appendix must provide a transparent description including the tool(s) used (name and version, where applicable), the purpose and stage of use (e.g., ideation, editing), 1–3 representative example prompts per use case, and a brief explanation of how the out-puts were verified and validated. Applicants remain fully responsible for all content submitted. Failure to disclose the use of artificial intelligence constitutes academic misconduct.

2. **Curriculum Vitae** (please follow the instructions of the Finnish National Board on Research Integrity and the Academy of Finland: <https://tenk.fi/en/advice-and-materials/template-researchers-curriculum-vitae>)
3. **List of Publications** (<https://www.aka.fi/en/research-funding/apply-for-funding/how-to-apply-for-funding/az-index-of-application-guidelines2/list-of-publications/>)
4. **Transcript of records** for your postgraduate studies (if any), copies of the degree certificate, and transcript of records of your Master's degree

NB! The application documents should be written in **English** when applying for a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position because international experts are involved in the assessment of the applications. The degree certificate/diploma and transcript of records may also be in Finnish or Swedish. The application form can be filled in in English or Finnish.

A person selected for the position is required to have an active right to study in the TSE doctoral programme. If you have not yet been granted a right to study, you must also apply for a right to pursue a doctoral degree in the TSE doctoral programme by filling in an electronic form in My Studyinfo service.

Appendix 2. Attachments to the application when applying for a right to pursue a doctoral degree

Please fill out the electronic application form on My StudyInfo and attach the required application documents into it, if not otherwise stated. Please ensure that all attachments are high-quality, easy-to-read, full-colour scans or photographs of the entire required document. Attachments must be submitted in PDF format. Attachments that do not meet these requirements may be rejected. Name each attachment so that the file name clearly indicates both your name and the document type (for example: surname-firstname-CV).

1. **Research plan**, including funding plan and schedule for the research and studies (max 10 pages (excl. cover and list of references), Times New Roman 12 pt, line spacing 1.5) in PDF format

By attaching the research plan to the application form, the applicant gives permission to check the research plan with *Turnitin OriginalityCheck* software (a system for electronic plagiarism detection). Useful information on preparing your research plan is available on the Doctoral training website of TSE: <https://www.utu.fi/en/university/turku-school-of-economics/research/doctoral-training/applying>.

Please note that AI generated texts do not reach the academic and analytical depth we cherish at TSE. Producing the main body of text with AI reproduces only a superficial account of your topic, and would highly unlikely result in a positive decision.

The use of AI tools is permitted only as a support instrument (e.g., for language editing or idea exploration). The core intellectual content of the re-search plan, including research questions, design,

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and argumentation, must be the applicant's own work. AI tools must not be used to generate the research plan as a whole.

All applicants must include a separate appendix to their research plan titled "Use of Artificial Intelligence in the Research Plan" (max. 1 page). If no AI tools have been used, the appendix must include a brief statement confirming this. If AI tools have been used, the appendix must provide a transparent description including the tool(s) used (name and version, where applicable), the purpose and stage of use (e.g., ideation, editing), 1–3 representative example prompts per use case, and a brief explanation of how the out-puts were verified and validated. Applicants remain fully responsible for all content submitted. Failure to disclose the use of artificial intelligence constitutes academic misconduct and may lead to the rejection of the application.

2. **Curriculum Vitae** (please follow the instructions of the Finnish National Board on Research Integrity and the Academy of Finland: <https://tenk.fi/en/advice-and-materials/template-researchers-curriculum-vitae>)
3. **List of Publications** (<https://www.aka.fi/en/research-funding/apply-for-funding/how-to-apply-for-funding/az-index-of-application-guidelines2/list-of-publications/>)
4. **Degree certificates and transcripts of study records**

Attach to the electronic application form:

- the scanned or electronic original certificate of the higher university degree (e.g., Master's degree),
- the scanned or electronic original transcript of study records of the higher university degree,
- other study certificates relevant to the selection criteria (for example, studies completed outside the degree that relate to the doctoral degree you are applying for).

If the documents are not in Finnish, Swedish or English, you must also submit an official translation into one of those languages; an official translation is accepted if issued by the degree-awarding university or produced by an authorised translator. A Diploma Supplement (DS) issued by a European higher education institution may be accepted instead of an English translation of the degree certificate and transcript, provided it contains the details of the study records.

Those applicants who have been granted a right to study and who have completed their prior degree abroad have to submit either the original degree certificates or certified copies of the degree certificates and other educational documents and the official translations of the documents to the University of Turku as instructed in the admission notification by 8 March 2027 at the latest. If the admitted applicant does not deliver the required certificates by the deadline, they forfeit the study right. Instructions on delivering certificates and country-specific requirements are available here: <https://www.utu.fi/en/study-at-utu/accepted-students/original-documents>.

5. Copy of a valid passport

Attach a copy of your valid passport or official identification card with a photo and information on citizenship. If you have a Finnish personal identity code and you have entered it on the application form, you do not need to attach a copy of your passport

6. Verification of language proficiency

The University of Turku follows the Rector's decision on the means of verifying one's language proficiency. See the language requirements on the webpage of the university's graduate school: [Link to the webpage on language requirements](#).

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If the applicant is required to prove their language proficiency with a language test, a scanned certificate of a completed language test must be attached to the application.

7. Letter of motivation

The application must include a one-page letter of motivation. In the letter, the applicant must state why they are applying specifically to the Turku School of Economics and to the chosen major subject, and what novelty value the intended research would bring to the scientific field. The letter must also include the applicant's reflections on their professional aspirations.

NB! The application documents should be written in **English** when applying for a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position under an employment contract and a right to pursue a doctoral degree related to the fixed-term position because international experts are involved in the assessment of the applications. The degree certificate/diploma and transcript of records may also be in Finnish or Swedish. The application form can be filled in in English or Finnish. If you apply solely for the right to study for a doctoral degree, the application and the required attachments may be written in Finnish. Possible reference letters in PDF format must be sent directly to [tsedoctoralprogramme \(a\) utu.fi](mailto:tsedoctoralprogramme(a)utu.fi) by the referees.

In the Studyinfo service, you can only apply for the right to study for a doctoral degree. If you also want to apply for a fixed-term doctoral researcher position under an employment contract, you must apply for that position separately in the University of Turku recruitment system Talenti.